

SPECIAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION ISSUE

Six support staff race for seat on Board

Half a dozen George Brown support staff are racing to get into one chair at the College's Board table.

More than 750 support staff will decide in a Dec. 14 election who will win that race, and sit as their representative on the Board of Governors for the next three years.

Running are Casa Loma Tradesperson Tom Crean, Academic Upgrading Department Technician Tim Dineen, Ontario Skills Development Office Consultant and current Board representative Dino Nassivera, St. James Campus Supervisor Donald Ralph

Nichols, Finance Department Accountant Andrew Rodriguez, and Fashion Department Public Relations Coordinator Cynthia Ulba.

Apart from Nassivera, all candidates are running for the first time.

Campaigning by candidates, which has involved distribution of flyers and campus visits, will continue until Dec. 13.

(Statements by all candidates can be found on page 2 of this special edition.)

In the first support staff election in 1987, 254 people voted – just under

half of all eligible staff.

In the Dec. 14 election, about 550 full-time and about 200 part-time support staff are eligible to vote.

The winner will start a three-year term at the beginning of January.

The 16-member Board is the highest decision-making body in the College and is legally responsible for all College operations, including hiring the president.

The support staff representative, along with representatives of academic and administrative staff and a student representative (see story on this page), join community representatives appointed to the Board by the Ontario Council of Regents. The President is the secretary/treasurer and a non-voting Board member.

For the first time in January, elected staff and student representatives will be permitted to vote at Board meetings.

Board members attend monthly meetings throughout the year as well as sitting on one of three sub-committees: education, property or finance.

The Board as a whole considers recommendations from the three sub-committees.

Election on Dec. 14: advance poll Dec. 12

Support staff can vote early or late in the Board of Governors election on Dec. 14.

Polls will be open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and again from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

If staff aren't available to vote at these times, an advance poll will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 12 at all campuses from 7 to 9 a.m.

Campus Managers will establish the polling booths in a public location at each campus.

After the close of the polls on Dec. 14, the ballots will be taken to 500 MacPherson where they will be counted by staff of the Elections Council, under the watchful eyes of candidates or their scrutineers.

Community Services student acclaimed

A former optician is going to help the Board of Governors see issues from a student's point of view a little more clearly.

Jane Eastwood, who fitted contact lenses and glasses for more than eight years before coming back to college, was acclaimed to the Board after the close of nominations on Dec. 1.

The 29-year-old first-year student in the Assaulted Women's and Children's Counsellor/Advocate program at Nightingale was the only student to be nominated for the one-year term on the Board.

She is the first female student representative to serve on the Board, the first Community Services student, and the first student representative who is not also president of the St. James Student Administrative Council.

Eastwood has considerable experience with post-secondary educational institutions. After graduating from high school in her native British Columbia, she took courses at the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria as well as Vancouver Community College.

Her time at university convinced her that she preferred the smaller class sizes of a college.

"I wanted a more practical and more personal way to learn."

Eastwood says she likes her program



Community Services student Jane Eastwood has been acclaimed to the Board of Governors.

because of its dedicated teachers, close-knit student group and feminist approach to counselling.

Like most George Brown students, Eastwood works part-time. Her current job – one that she got during the faculty strike – involves helping seniors with disabilities become more integrated in their community.

Eastwood has also worked for a short period as a bench assembly worker for an aircraft company, as part of a program to train women in non-traditional occupations.

SUPPORT STAFF CANDIDATES IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION DEC. 14, 1989



Thomas Crean

**Tradesperson,
Plant Operations,
Casa Loma Campus**



Tim Dineen

**Technician,
Academic Upgrading
Department, Casa
Loma Campus**



**Dino
Nassivera**

**Consultant,
Ontario Skills
Development Office,
St. James Campus**



**Donald Ralph
Nichols**

**Evening Campus
Supervisor,
St. James Campus**



**Andrew
Rodriguez**

**Accountant,
Finance Dept.,
500 MacPherson**



Cynthia Ulba

**Public Relations
Co-ordinator,
Fashion Division,
Kensington Campus**

Support staff deserve a Board of Governors representative who will honour the commitment in an honourable way.

In my opinion, the privilege of sitting on the Board is not to be taken lightly. I feel that you deserve the best possible representation and I know I can provide it.

Twenty years of College experience along with 15 years of Union experience (six years as treasurer) have given me a special perspective that enables me to speak with authority on your behalf.

As well, having attended several Board meetings, I feel confident that I can make a positive contribution for you.

If elected, I view my mandate as ensuring proper communication from and to the Board with regular feedback being my main goal.

There are many issues that your support staff representative should bring to the attention of the Board of Governors. The privatization of jobs, the threat of layoffs, costly and needless renovations (which leave some staff and students at St. James in the cold) are but a few of the items that must be addressed. Regardless of your position as caretaker, computer operator, clerk or technician, your voice must be heard at the Board.

For almost 20 years, I have served you as a member of your union's local executive, a union counsellor and as your representative on the College Council. Your interests have always been my guide for the actions necessary to make George Brown a better, safer place to work.

I will be an aggressive representative working on your behalf who will present your side of the questions that concern us all.

On Dec. 14 you will make an important decision on who you want to best represent you on the Board of Governors. My efforts on the Board have resulted in a better appreciation of our concerns whether they be in areas of health and safety or human resources.

In the coming years, this College will face serious challenges that may affect you personally. I believe that my past two years' experience as your representative on the Board and my 10 years' experience as an executive of Local 557 and editor of the Local 557 newsletter has given me the knowledge and expertise to best serve your interests.

On Dec. 14, I need your continued support to guarantee a strong voice on the Board of Governors.

As the Campus Supervisor of St. James, I provide support services to Continuing Education faculty and students. With over 52,000 part-time registrations this year, 60 per cent of which attend St. James, my objective is to provide a safe and comfortable work/study environment for staff, faculty and students.

With a new decade on the horizon, an old threat to the quality service provided by George Brown College support staff has reappeared. The budget cut! Attrition within the ranks of support personnel and layoffs will again be a fact of life.

The Board of Governors must establish effective priorities now. Antiquated equipment, out-of-date curriculum, littered facilities and declining support services — definitely not the image that we would choose for the College — will become reality if present policy is adhered to.

If elected to the Board of Governors, I would dedicate my abilities to provide effective representation for my support staff colleagues. Aware of your concerns, together, we can be progressive about the future of George Brown College.

I have been employed at the College for 19 years in the Finance and Accounting Department. Some of the positions I occupied were: supervisor of accounting and a member of the College's internal audit team. I am currently employed in the budget, systems and costing section of the Department.

With knowledge I have acquired from my various positions and my understanding of the College/Ministry system, I know I will be an asset to you the support staff as your representative on the Board.

As Public Relations Co-ordinator for the Fashion Division, I realize the importance of good and effective communications. With a thorough background as a communicator, I will be an informed, responsible representative who can both listen to the issues, and address them on behalf of the College's support staff.

Issues such as professional development opportunities, funding and workplace day care involve every one of us, and I am prepared to firmly and intelligently represent support staff on the concerns that arise over the next three years.

Having been an active member of the 20th Anniversary Committee, the CollegeFest Subcommittee, and the Fashion Division operational review I am experienced in the workings of the College. As a three-year employee, I also have a fresh perspective to contribute as a member of the Board of Governors.